

Institutional Turf Replacement Program *portfolio*

Installing Native and Water-Wise Landscaping in Public Places

A collaborative program from:
California Department of Water Resources
California Conservation Corps
Habitat Corridor Project
Local Government Commission

<http://www.water.ca.gov/turf/InstTurf.cfm>



**Local
Government
Commission**

Leaders for Livable Communities



Madera Irrigation District



BEFORE

Project Description

- Removed turf
- Installed high-efficiency irrigation components
- Planted native and drought-tolerant plants
- Placed xeriscaping materials such as mulch, decomposed granite, and rock



Dead and drought stressed trees were replaced with attractive river rock and ornamental features that do not require water (xeriscaping)

Project Details

Turf Removed 18,184 Sq. Ft.

Materials Budget \$18,998

Estimated Water Savings

309,417 gal/yr



AFTER

Merced Boys and Girls Club



BEFORE

Project Details

Turf Removed 12,000 Sq. Ft.

Materials Budget \$17,000

Estimated Water Savings

200,293 gal/yr

Project Description

- Removed turf and water-hungry shrubs
- Constructed the bio-retention swale, reusing inverted sod for the berms
- Installed high-efficiency irrigation
- Planted native and drought-tolerant plants
- Placed mulch and patio pavers

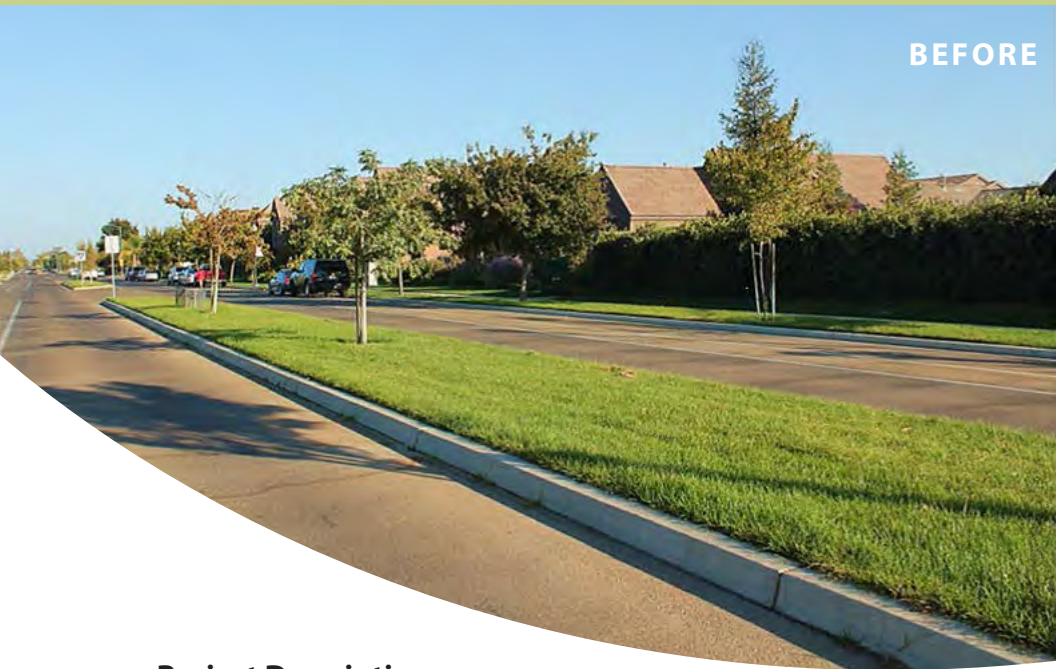


Plants that can tolerate both wet and dry conditions, like this desert willow, were planted in the newly created swales; the plants make use of captured rainwater, requiring no irrigated water.



AFTER

BEFORE



Project Description

- Removed turf
- Planted water-efficient and California native plants
- Replaced spray irrigation with drip irrigation
- Placed mulch and permeable hardscape



Native grasses, like this deer grass, add movement and soft texture to landscapes.

Project Details

Turf Removed 6,400 Sq. Ft.

Materials Budget \$13,402

Estimated Water Savings

108,127 gal/yr

AFTER



City of Tehachapi Fire Station #12



BEFORE

Project Details

Turf Removed 4,566 Sq. Ft.

Materials Budget \$4,755

Estimated Water Savings

78,231 gal/yr

Project Description

- Removed turf and detritus
- Installed efficient drip irrigation
- Installed a rain garden
- Placed mulch, gravel, and decomposed granite
- Planted water-efficient plants



Adding rocks for a rain garden not only captures runoff, but also adds an interesting focal point.



AFTER

City of Merced, Applegate Park



BEFORE

Project Details

Turf Removed 10,700 Sq. Ft.

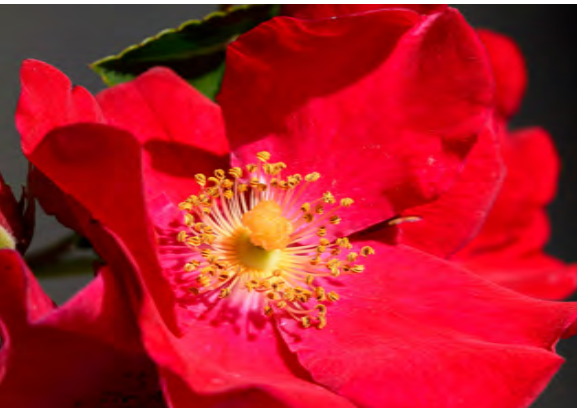
Materials Budget \$15,746

Estimated Water Savings

178,595 gal/yr

Project Description

- Removed turf and detritus
- Installed efficient controllers
- Installed efficient irrigation
- Placed decomposed granite
- Placed mulch
- Planted water-efficient plants

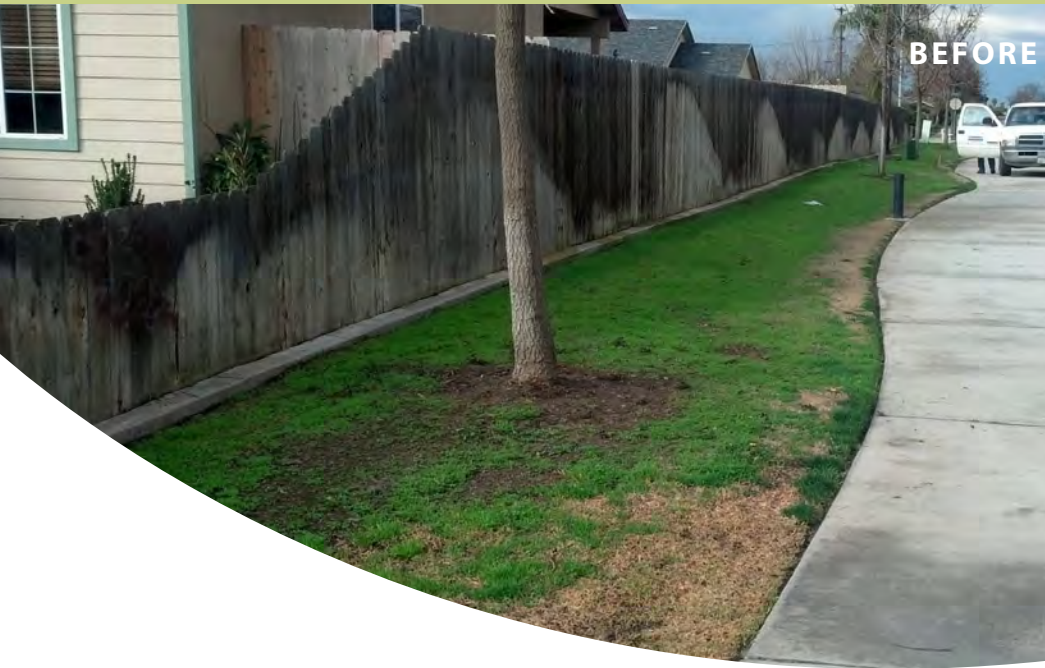


Many flowering shrubs, like the tree roses used for this project, are surprisingly low water-use.



AFTER

City of Dinuba — Paseo Park



BEFORE

Project Details

Turf Removed 5,775 Sq. Ft.

Materials Budget \$6,855

Estimated Water Savings

95,682 gal/yr

Project Description

- Removed turf
- Installed efficient irrigation
- Placed mulch
- Planted drought-tolerant plants



Mulch helps to keep soil cooler, retain moisture, and keep down weeds. It can also be used to add visual interest and color.



AFTER

Proudly helping the environment by helping people and promoting sustainability



Overall Project Details as of November 2016

Total Turf Removed 185,242 Sq. Ft.

Estimated Materials Budget \$678,324

Estimated Water Savings

3,093,015 gal/yr



Conservation, Restoration, and Education



Top left: Exhibit at the 2016 California State Fair featuring water-wise plants

Top Right: California Conservation Corp member

Right: sheet mulching demonstration at the California Capitol



left: display showing the layers involved in sheet mulching (from bottom up: existing dirt, old turf, recycled cardboard or newspaper, compost, and mulch).

Making Conservation a California Way of Life



Up to
\$20,000 per project
is still available for projects
between $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre of
turf removal.

The Program Promotes:

- Saving costs by saving water and energy
- Assisting with compliance of landscape water use ordinances
- Installing drought-tolerant and California native plants
- Restoring natural biodiversity
- Creating habitat to support natural flora and fauna



Above: Using California native plants creates a landscape naturally suited for the local environment.

Below, left and right: Drought-tolerant flowering plants provide food for beneficial pollinators.

